

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-9 without prejudice or disclaimer of their underlying subject matter.

1-9. (Cancelled).

Please add the following new claims.

10. (New) Diagonal laminated veneer lumber having a plurality of layers of veneer (2'a) laminated together by adhesive into a board having a length and a width, wherein each of said layers of veneer (2'a) has a plurality of substantially parallelogram-shaped veneer sheets (1'a) each having two opposite sides which extend substantially along the wood grain of the veneer and also having a plurality of veneer pieces which are joined together in the direction of wood grain of the veneer thereby to form said parallelogram-shaped veneer sheet (1'a), said parallelogram-shaped veneer sheets (1'a) are laid or joined successively with two adjacent sides of any two adjacent parallelogram-shaped veneer sheets (1'a) set in abutment with each other thereby to form said layers of veneer (2'a), said two adjacent sides being said sides extending substantially along the wood grain of the veneer, and any two adjacent layers of veneer (2'a) are disposed in said diagonal laminated veneer lumber with the wood grain thereof oriented diagonally in opposite directions at an angle between 30° and 60° with respect to the length of the diagonal laminated veneer lumber.

11. (New) Diagonal laminated veneer lumber according to claim 10, wherein said two adjacent layers of veneer (2'a) are disposed with the wood grain thereof oriented diagonally at about 45° with respect to the length of the diagonal laminated veneer lumber.

12. (New) Method of manufacturing diagonal laminated veneer lumber comprising: providing a rotary-cut veneer sheet (1) having longitudinal ends (b) to which the wood grain (a) of the veneer sheet (1) is oriented substantially perpendicularly, clipping said rotary-cut veneer sheet (1) along lines (c) extending perpendicularly to said longitudinal ends (b) into a plurality of substantially square- or rectangular-shaped veneer sheets (1a), joining said square- or rectangular-shaped veneer sheets (1a) successively at the longitudinal ends (b) thereof thereby to form a band of joined veneer (1'), clipping said band of joined veneer (1') along lines (c') extending diagonally at an angle with respect to the lateral sides of said band of joined veneer (1') (or the lines (c) of said rotary-cut veneer sheet (1)) into a plurality of substantially parallelogram-shaped veneer sheets (1'a), laying or joining said parallelogram-shaped veneer sheets (1'a) successively with two adjacent sides of any two adjacent parallelogram-shaped veneer sheets (1'a), which sides extend substantially along the wood grain of the veneer, set in abutment with each other thereby to form a plurality of layers of veneer (2'a), and laminating said plurality of layers of veneer (2'a) together such that any two adjacent layers of veneer (2'a) are disposed in said diagonal laminated veneer lumber with the wood grain thereof oriented diagonally in opposite directions at an angle between 30° and 60° with respect to the longitudinal direction of the diagonal laminated veneer lumber.

13. (New) Method of manufacturing diagonal laminated veneer lumber according to claim 12, wherein said laminating a plurality of the layers of veneer (2'a) together is performed such that said two adjacent layers of veneer (2'a) are disposed with the wood grain thereof oriented diagonally at about 45° with respect to the longitudinal direction of the diagonal laminated veneer lumber.

14. (New) Method of manufacturing diagonal laminated veneer lumber according to claim 12, wherein said laying or joining the parallelogram-shaped veneer sheets (1'a) successively and said laminating a plurality of the layers of veneer (2'a) together are performed simultaneously.